

From: kussow@smtp1.san.rr.com@inetgw
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 11/18/01 8:32pm
Subject: Allow non-MS Operating Systems to be preinstalled.

DOJ,

One of the key abuses of Microsoft's (MS) monopoly power is the way they leverage their operating system (OS) monopoly to keep hardware sellers from providing systems that have both a MS OS and other non-MS OSs preinstalled. Forcing MS to drop this practice would have many benefits.

- 1) Easier for users to experiment with new OSs.
- 2) More incentive for hardware developers to provide drivers for more OS's making the OS's easier to use and more reliable.

These two effects would allow other OSs to build a foothold amongst the non-expert computing public. This is the market that must be penetrated to compete with MS in the OS area. The only reason computer sellers such as Dell, Gateway, and others are not currently selling machines with multiple OSs is because of MS contract restrictions. The BeOS (now defunct) and Linux OSs would both benefit greatly from this policy.

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